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12/16/2005 13:50 FAX 19494768640

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Jan 6, 06

52011/CAB/A400

SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION
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VERBENA PLANT NAMED 'SUNMARISAKURA'

BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION

Verbena hybrida

VARIETAL DENOMINATION

5 'Sunmarisakura'

BACKGROUND OF THE VARIETY

The present new distinct cultivar of *Verbena* was created by heavy ion beam irradiation of the *Verbena* hybrid variety called 'Sunmarisa'. 'Sunmarisa' (U.S. Plant Patent No. 11130) is our *Verbena* hybrid variety grown at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan.

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In July 1998, 5Gy of ionic nitrogen (135MeV) was irradiated onto 128 pieces of in vitro axillary bud of 'Sunmarisa' using the Ring Cyclotron at The Institute of Physical and Chemical Research. Two weeks later, elongated buds were grown from cuttings. In March 1999, five varieties were selected in view of self-sterility.

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These plants were propagated by cutting and then grown in pot and planter box on trial from May 1999 at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan. Additionally, the plants were grown in pots and planter boxes during trial in 2000. Finally, one plant was selected from these five varieties in view of having a long flower duration. By November 2000, the botanical characteristics of the selected plant were examined. As a result, it was concluded that this new *Verbena* plant is distinguishable from any other variety, whose existence is known to us, and is uniform and stable in its characteristics. This new variety of *Verbena* plant was named 'Sunmarisakura'.

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25 The new variety of the present Invention can be distinguished from its parent 'Sunmarisa' in its self-sterility. Also the new variety can be distinguished from the similar variety 'Sunmarip' in the flower color and self-sterility.

The new variety of *Verbena* plant 'Sunmarisakura' was asexually reproduced by cutting at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, and the homogeneity and stability